EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Paul Ragusa on 7/30/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 6, the term "one" has been replaced with - - the group consisting - -.

In claim 1, line 9, after the term "from" the phrase - - the group consisting of - - has been inserted.

In claim 22, line 4, the term "one" has been replaced with - - the group consisting - -.

In claim 22, line 6, the term "one" has been replaced with - - the group consisting - -.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Harry et al. US 5316792 teaches a process of making a stabilized resin particles. The particles are made by reacting a heat curable resin with a formaldehyde source-metal compound (FS-MC) (Column 8 Lines 50-55). Suitable FS-MCs include hexamethylenetetramine (HTMA) zirconium lactate (Column 11 Lines 3-4), HTMA zirconium glycerate (Column 11 Lines 15-16), and HTMA zirconium hydroxide (Column

11 Lines 24-25). Harry also teaches cerium may be used to form the FS-MC (Column 11 Lines 8-10).

The instant case is allowable over Harry et al. US 5316792 because Harry does not teach or suggest the use of zirconium oxychloride or cerium nitrate in making the FS-MC. Nor does Harry teach combining a zirconium compound with a cerium compound and HTMA to form a cerium and zirconium oxide.

Sigwart et al. US 5945575 teaches a process of making a polymerization catalyst comprising zirconium (Abstract) and a promoter that may be cerium (Column 4 Lines 25-30). Sigwart makes zirconium hydroxide by reacting a zirconium salts with hexamethylenetetramine (Column 6 Lines 41-59). The promoter such as cerium is applied to the zirconium hydroxide (Column 6 Lines 60-64).

The instant case is allowable over Sigwart et al. US 5945575 because Sigwart does not teach or suggest the use of zirconium oxychloride or cerium nitrate in making the catalyst. None of the salts taught by Sigwart in column 6 Lines 41-59 contain a halogen, and one of ordinary skill would not be motivated to use zirconium oxychloride with cerium nitrate and HTMA to form the catalyst of Sigwart.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES A. FIORITO whose telephone number is (571)272-7426. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am - 6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stanley Silverman can be reached on (571) 272-1358. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James A Fiorito/
Examiner, Art Unit 1793

/Wayne Langel/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1793